

Minutes of a Meeting of the Concordia Council on Student Life Held on December 6, 1996 at 10:00am in H 762, SGW Campus

Present: Dr. D.L. Boisvert, Chair, Ms J. Hackett, Secretary, Dr. S.M. Graub, Ms. N. Torbit, Ms A. Kerby, Mr. R. Côté, Ms C. Hughes, Ms A. Ghadban, Prof. B. Barbieri, Mr. H. Zarins, Mr. A. Feldman, Mr. R. Melkonian, Ms E. Robinson, Ms J. Starkman, Ms C. Cogger, Ms S. Kiruluta, Mr. A. Youness

Absent with Regrets: Ms. K. Hedrich, Dr. R. Bonin, Ms L. Prendergast, Ms A. Vroom, Dr. M. Barlow, Ms L. Lipscombe, Mr. R. MacIver, Mr. A. Zakka

Absent: Ms M. West

Delegates: Ms G. Panetta replaced Ms K. Hedrich

Guests: Mr. A. Gagnon, Ms E. Rodinos, Dr. P. David, Ms S. Hawke, Mr. V. Pavlicik

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved without changes or additions.

2. REMARKS FROM THE CHAIR

Dr. Boisvert indicated that as there were new Council members present at the meeting, it would be a good idea for people to introduce themselves. Ms Christine Cogger, Ms Sanyu Kiruluta, Ms Judith Starkman and Ms Maxine West (absent) were welcomed onto Council as the new undergraduate representatives. Mr. Ahmad Youness was welcomed as a graduate representative.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MEETING OF OCTOBER 18, 1996

Mr. Feldman questioned the wording of section 4.a - Recreation & Athletics Budget Deficit. He felt the paragraph should be rephrased to better reflect the status of the Athletics budget. Dr. Boisvert agreed to amend the wording by removing the last two sentences. A motion to approve the minutes, with the modification, was made by Mr. Feldman, seconded by Professor Barbieri. The motion was carried.

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

a) **CSU Job Bank/Off-Campus Housing Budget:** Dr. Boisvert asked for an update on the outstanding reports and budgets. Ms Cogger replied there had been some confusion and she was now in the process of sorting out the problems. Dr. Boisvert reiterated that the allocation of the money was contingent upon a report from CSU. Ms Cogger confirmed that a report and budget information would be available for the January CCSL meeting.

b) **Council budgetary Input: 1997-2000:** A memorandum was distributed to Council proposing a 1997-2000 Budget Preparation Process. The Directors are suggesting a 3 step process. After discussion the Directors will prepare a three year budget. At the

February meeting the Directors will table a Preliminary Draft. The Final Draft Budget will be tabled for discussion at the March Council meeting. These "draft budgets" will **all** be open for discussion. Mr. Feldman asked that as much information as possible be available when changes take place. Detailed explanations would be appreciated. Dr. Boisvert agreed this would be beneficial. Mr. Zarins asked if a budget sub-committee might be appropriate at this time. Dr. Boisvert confirmed that this matter had been discussed at the September CCSL meeting. It had been decided that members of Council may decide to refer this budget to a special working group if necessary.

c) **Differences in Rec. & Athletics User Fee:** Mr. Zarins introduced Mr. V. Pavlicik, Assistant Director, Campus Recreation, to CCSL, who reviewed the price structure. Mr. Pavlicik explained each of the classes have different demands, equipment, expertise needed. The classes at SGW Campus are consistently larger. These points can account for differences in prices. However it was felt by members of Council that the concern is perception - one campus is more expensive than the other. Mr. Pavlicik indicated that Recreation & Athletics has always tried to be sensitive to student needs and that no student would be turned away for financial reasons. After much discussion members of Council felt that the bottom line was that the fee structure should be equitable for both campuses. Mr. Zarins felt the comments expressed were excellent and would look seriously at an equitable fee structure for both campuses. He reiterated that these changes in fees would apply only to the students' rate. Council agreed this was fair.

d) **Other Business Arising:** Mr. Feldman informed Council he has been appointed to the Space Planning Task Force as the undergraduate representative. However Mr. Feldman noted there was no mention of the graduate representative appointment. Dr. Boisvert affirmed that the motion originally sent to the Rector requested undergraduate and graduate representation. Dr. Boisvert agreed to follow-up on this issue with the Rector.

5. ITEMS OF INFORMATION

Smart Start Program: Dr. Graub reported that the Program is in operation for January 1997 admissions. The two weeks after the Orientation Day (January 10th) have been set aside for Smart Start Program.

6. REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS

Counselling & Development presented an informative and entertaining session. Ms E. Rodinos spoke about learning difficulties that students today are faced with and how Counselling & Development can be of assistance. A skit followed, performed by Ms S. Hawke, Mr. A. Gagnon and Dr. P. David. The skit demonstrated how a student can make good use of Counselling & Development's many varied services as a first year student all the way to his/her graduation. Professor Barbieri felt there should be a stronger link between these types of services and the academics in order to make better use of existing resources. Mr. Feldman asked if information and guidance were available for students wishing to strike out on their own or start their own businesses. Professor Barbieri confirmed that there were courses offered to Commerce students, but perhaps a course could be designed that would be open to all students. Professor Barbieri also felt it would be beneficial to involve the Vice-Rector, Academic. A lengthy discussion followed. Dr. Graub informed Council she is the chair of the Employment Services Committee. Dr. Graub suggested that perhaps a "career course" could be incorporated into the curriculum. Dr. Boisvert asked Dr. Graub to follow-up on this issue.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a) **Audio-Visual Availability for Student Groups:** Dr. Boisvert referred Council to the letter submitted from Mr. J. Nearing, President, FASA. Before discussion Dr. Boisvert clarified the following errors in Mr. Nearing's letter: University Departments **do** pay for AV services/equipment and if a project is academic or class related, the professor signs the AV requisition and there is **no charge** for the student. Mr. Feldman stated that this issue had come up last year, as well as the issue of security charges for student events. Mr. Feldman understood the university's financial concerns, but he felt that students do pay already through tuition, student services fees. Student groups are underfunded. These costs restrict groups from planning para-academic activities, for example workshops, exhibitions, guest lecturers. All these activities can enhance the reputation of the university as well as encourage student involvement. Ms Kerby questioned whether the Student Life Fund could support these types of events in the future. After some discussion Dr. Boisvert recommended a small working group be formed to look at this issue. The group membership is as follows: Dr. Boisvert (or his delegate), Mr. Feldman, Ms Starkman, Ms Kerby and Mr. MacIver.

b) **Student Services Review Report: Follow-up:** Dr. Boisvert thanked the organizers and the participants in the CCSL Review for an excellent workshop. The "Review Notes" from the Workshop were distributed as well as an update on the status of recommendations (implemented or not implemented). Ms Cogger asked if the consensus was that the recommendations would be implemented. Dr. Boisvert replied that had not been resolved, but he felt it was important at this time to focus on the recommendations with resource/budget implications. It was understood that Council was not deciding the "fate" of the recommendations - just identifying those with resource/budget implications, so the Directors could incorporate them into the budget process. The following recommendations were deemed to have resource/budget implications: #6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18,23,24,27,29,28,33,35,36,37,40. Mr. Feldman suggested that where possible we should reduce costs by using existing University resources. For example, where the job is not a permanent feature, graduate student internships could be utilized. It was also suggested additional duties can be allocated to existing staff, students can be hired etc. Mr. Feldman asked, with reference to #36, how there could be money to carry over when individual departments have deficits. Dr. Boisvert replied the year-end is based on the overall bottom line figure, not individual departments. Professor Barbieri asked, in reference to the Maclean's Report, how Student Services money is allocated, in order to fight for a higher percentage of university budget. Dr. Boisvert will look into the basis of the allocation.

Concern was expressed as to what our next concrete step should be. Dr. Boisvert confirmed the Directors will meet again to discuss the budget before the Christmas break. The Athletics Task Force will report at the January CCSL meeting.

c) **Other New Business:** Mr. Feldman indicated the Space Planning Task Force had hoped for a recommendation before Christmas, but Dr. Bertrand now felt that was unlikely.

8.NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be January 17, 1997 in AD 131 at 10:00am

9.TERMINATION OF MEETING: On a motion by Ms. Torbit, seconded by Ms Kerby, the meeting was terminated at 12:20pm